

AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently amended) A lid adapted for removable attachment to a cup having a rim, which lid comprises:

a generally circular top surface;

an annular side wall contiguous to the periphery of the top surface and extending downward from the top surface, the annular side wall being comprised of an annular coupling surface formed in the annular side wall for removably securing the lid to the cup rim in an attached position;

a first aperture in the annular side wall extending upwards from the lower edge of the annular side wall;

a second aperture in the annular side wall extending upwards from the lower edge of the annular side wall and spaced apart from the first aperture;

the first and second apertures configured such that the top surface of the lid is maintained substantially outside the circumference of the cup rim when the cup rim passes through the first and the second apertures;

wherein the lid can be mounted onto the cup rim while leaving the contents of the cup accessible when the cup rim passes through the first and the second apertures.

2. (Currently amended) ~~The lid according to claim 1, further comprising A lid adapted for removable attachment to a cup having a rim, which lid comprises:~~

a generally circular top surface;

an annular side wall contiguous to the periphery of the top surface and extending downward from the top surface, the annular side wall being comprised of an annular coupling surface formed in the annular side wall for removably securing the lid to the cup rim in an attached position;

a first aperture in the annular side wall extending upwards from the lower edge of the annular side wall;

a second aperture in the annular side wall extending upwards from the lower edge of the annular side wall and spaced apart from the first aperture;

at least one dispensing aperture in the generally circular top surface through which the cup contents can be dispensed when the lid is secured to the cup in the attached position;

wherein the lid can be mounted onto the cup rim while leaving the contents of the cup accessible when the cup rim passes through the first and the second apertures.

3. (Previously Presented) The lid according to claim 1, wherein the first aperture and the second aperture are generally parabolic in shape, the widest portion of the aperture residing along the lower edge of the annular side wall.

4. (Previously Presented) The lid according to claim 1, in which the first and second apertures do not extend upwards into the annular side wall beyond the highest point at which the side wall contacts the cup rim when the lid is in the attached position.

5. (Previously Presented) The lid according to claim 1, which lid is made from a disposable or recyclable material.

6. (Previously Presented) The lid according to claim 5, wherein the disposable or recyclable material is a thermoplastic material.

7. (Currently amended) ~~The lid according to claim 1, A lid adapted for removable attachment to a cup having a rim, which lid comprises:~~

a generally circular top surface;

an annular side wall contiguous to the periphery of the top surface and extending downward from the top surface, the annular side wall being comprised of
an annular coupling surface formed in the annular side wall for removably
securing the lid to the cup rim in an attached position;

a first aperture in the annular side wall extending upwards from the lower edge of
the annular side wall;

a second aperture in the annular side wall extending upwards from the lower
edge of the annular side wall and spaced apart from the first aperture;

in which the first aperture is spaced from the second aperture along the annular side wall by a distance of approximately one-tenth of the circumference of the annular side wall;

wherein the lid can be mounted onto the cup rim while leaving the contents of the
cup accessible when the cup rim passes through the first and the second
apertures.

8. (Previously Presented) The lid according to claim 2, on which the dispensing aperture is positioned near the periphery of the top surface, and the first and second apertures are located along the annular side wall at positions approximately opposite the dispensing aperture.

9-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Previously Presented) A method for using a cup having a removable lid comprising the steps of:

hanging the lid on the rim of the cup such that the majority of the area circumscribed by the rim of the cup is accessible;

accessing contents within the cup; and

mounting the lid onto the cup such that the lid substantially covers the area circumscribed by the rim of the cup;

whereby the contents of the cup can be accessed without setting the lid down on another surface.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24, wherein the step of hanging the lid on the rim of the cup is comprised of the substep of inserting the cup rim into at least two apertures formed in the lid.

26-28. (Cancelled)